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Public Comments on Telecommunications Relay Services and Speech-to-Speech Services for Individuals with Hearing and Speech Disabilities: Structure and Practices of the Video Relay Service Program:=====

Title: Telecommunications Relay Services and Speech-to-Speech Services for Individuals with Hearing and Speech Disabilities: Structure and Practices of the Video Relay Service Program

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Comment: CG Docket Nos. 03-123 and 10-51

I am a deaf person who uses Video Relay Services (VRS) for my communication with hearing people. VRS is a communication tool I use every day.

I am very concerned about the Federal Communication Commission's (FCC's) recent proposals to change the way VRS works. I can't imagine life without the current services I use. I don't want to see those services change!

The Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) assured deaf people access to "functionally-equivalent" communication -choices and services similar to those enjoyed by hearing people.

I am concerned that if the FCC's proposals go into effect, I won't have what the ADA promised me - choice in my VRS equipment. I want options to choose products designed for deaf people. I want choices.

I am concerned that if the FCC's proposals go into effect, I won't have a choice in my VRS provider. I don't want my calls to be routed through a centralized database that would assign my calls to different providers. Hearing people have a choice in service providers. I want a choice.

I am concerned that if the FCC's proposals go into effect and there are rate cuts for VRS providers, the quality of my service will suffer. I'm concerned that with very limited resources, VRS providers might have to make changes that would result in longer hold times and unreliable service. Hearing people have a choice to choose quality service. I don't want VRS quality to suffer because VRS providers have no choice but to cut aspects of their service.

Please fulfill the promises of the ADA! I want functional equivalency. I want choices - in equipment, providers and quality. Please ensure that the VRS services I currently enjoy are maintained.

CG Docket Nos. 03-123 and 10-51

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